

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

TERRY A. BENNETT

Group Art Unit: 1731

Examiner: Sean E. Vincent

Serial No.: 09/884,848

Filed: June 19, 2001

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR FORMING AND
QUENCHING GLASS SHEETS

Attorney Docket No.: GLT 1773 PUS

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REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the final Office Action dated February 25, 2003 for the above identified patent application, a Request for Continued Examination has been filed together with a Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.132 executed by the sole inventor, Terry A. Bennett, to discuss the references. That Declaration sets forth Bennett's education and work experience which is believed to qualify him as one of at least ordinary skill, and actually more than ordinary skill in the glass industry. The Bennett Declaration discusses the United States Patent 5,735,922 Woodward et al. and the published French patent application 2 221 409 of Nedelec on which claims 1-12 have been rejected.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this paper, including all enclosures referred to herein, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail, postage pre-paid, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

May 19, 2003
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James A. Kushman
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Signature


The Bennett Declaration explains why the roller drive shafts and positioning apparatus of Woodward et al. would not be operable in a heated environment as proposed by the Examiner. Specifically, the flexible drive shaft would anneal and lose strength and the sheathing and spring drive cables thereof would oxidize and freeze together as would wing nuts and threaded studs used in the inclination, directional and translational adjustments. The Examiner's position in the Office Action that the Woodward et al. rollers would be operable within the furnace is thus refuted.

Applicant respectfully submits it would not be obvious to combine Nedelec with Woodward since an inoperable combination would result for the reasons set forth in the Bennett Declaration.

For the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in an allowable condition such that it is appropriate to hereby respectfully solicit its allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

TERRY A. BENNETT

By 
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Date: May 19, 2003

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